

NEVADA

Connections

Produced by Community College Southern Nevada to connect resources for Nevada's adult workforce

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Adult COWs moo-ooving along

Computer access is much easier for thousands of families in southern Nevada ... they just wait for the bus! According to Program Manager Pat Mahoney, the Computers on Wheels program now sports a full-fledged bus, retrofitted with seven computers and printers donated by Gateway Country Computers, as well as the original two step vans leased from the Clark County School District.

Computers on Wheels is targeted to the parents of children who use the Classroom on Wheels, a free, bilingual preschool and accredited drug prevention program. Founded by Louise Helton, with the help of Liliam Hickey and Dr. Sidney Franklin, the mobile classroom program uses buses that are painted white with black spots (like cows); teachers conduct classes right in the preschoolers' neighborhoods.

Pat and Teaching Assistants Cristina Vega and Elizabeth Walsh drive the COWs into each neighborhood for 2 ½ hours twice a week. While the children work in the preschool buses, parents board the computer vehicles for computer-based instruction. Clients receive career assessment inventories, as well as instruction in ESL, GED, keyboarding, computers, and drug prevention. The "computers" program is funded through United Way, Nevada Even Start, and the Housing Authorities of Clark County, Las Vegas, Las Vegas and North Las Vegas.

The COW program also benefits from Pat's 20 years of experience with the School District, ten of which included working with the Nevada Career Information System. "Our adult COW clients can use NCIS for career planning and job searching," she says. "We're excited about offering this additional resource on our COWs!" For more information, contact Pat at 702/870-7201.



State Policy Update focuses on adults with disabilities

This report examines the results of a national assessment of how states are working to increase success rates for adults with disabilities and to improve access to adult literacy programs. It includes

examples of one particular aspect of what each of three states (Oklahoma, Illinois, and Connecticut) is doing to improve literacy programs for persons with disabilities. The project reflects a joint effort by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education, Division of Adult Education and Learning, and the National Institute for Literacy. You may obtain a copy of the 33-page report by calling (toll-free) 877/433-7827 or from the NIFL Web site:

www.nifl.gov/policy/disability.htm

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Use interlibrary loan to access hundreds of literacy resources

—Joanne Goena, Program Assistant, Nevada Literacy Coalition
800/445-9673 or 775/684-3340, jgoena@clan.lib.nv.us



The State Literacy Resource Center (SLRC) is a special collection of the Nevada Literacy Coalition housed at the Nevada State Library and Archives in Carson City. The SLRC has books, newsletters, and a wide variety of multimedia resources such as videos, audiotapes, CD-ROMs and games for literacy instruction, and programs for literacy students, trainers and tutors.

Materials for literacy students include new learner reading skills, life and consumer skills, GED test preparation, vocational education, English as a second language (ESL), citizenship information, adult basic skills instruction, and motivators and re-enforcers. Materials for trainers and tutors include workplace literacy, family literacy, tutor training resources, curriculum materials, lesson development and planning, assessment materials, and education and literacy theory.

The SLRC also makes special resources and services available to literacy program managers in the following areas: program management, volunteer development, assessment and record-keeping, fundraising and funding sources, grant proposal writing, conference handouts, and catalogs and ordering information.

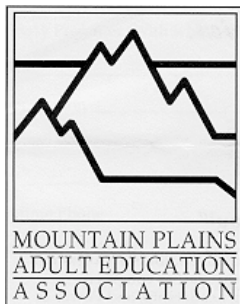
A complete listing of SLRC materials is available through the Nevada State Library and Archives online catalog at <http://dmla.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/nsla/>. Click on catalogs and databases, then CLAN.

A partial listing of the print and audiovisual materials available at the SLRC is available online at <http://dmla.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/nsla/literacy/>. Click on SLRC “Stuff to Share”. This partial listing is organized by topic, such as CASAS-related materials, family literacy, learning disabilities, multilevel teaching, and workplace literacy.

All State Literacy Resource Center materials are available statewide through free interlibrary loan. The procedure for interlibrary loan is:

1. Locate the materials you want in the online catalog and make note of the call number.
2. Go to the public library nearest your home or office with the title and call number of your materials and fill out an interlibrary loan (ILL) request.
3. The requested item(s) will be sent to your local library (usually within one week).
4. Your library will call you to pick up the item(s) requested.
5. Go to your local library and check out the item(s). Regular library loan procedures will apply.
6. If you need to renew, go to your local library.
7. Your library will return the item(s) to the SLRC.

MPAEA Web site updated



Wyoming's John Tollakson has recently added much new information to the Mountain Plains Adult Education Association's Web site. Visit www.mpaea.org for important information resulting from July's Board meeting, dates and rates for the 2001 conference in Albuquerque, scholarship applications, resources, and much more!

Nevada's Board members are:

- ▶ Julee Henson, 702/799-0170, grannyhens@aol.com
- ▶ Vicki Newell, 775/356-1007, director@nnlc.reno.nv.us

Arizona
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Nevada
New Mexico
Utah
Wyoming

New resources for workplace instructors

Editor's note: This e-mail message has been passed along from Judy Koloski, (ex-chair of the National Adult Education Professional Development Consortium), through Mary Katherine Moen (Nevada's Adult Education Consultant). I visited the Web site and checked out the links to the modules. Although I haven't analyzed the modules themselves, I thought they indeed looked promising and helpful!—Sharyn Yanoshak

My name is Marian Thacher and I work with the Workplace Learning Resource Center within the San Diego Community College District. Our mandate is to teach basic skills in the workplace, but we are also a regional resource center for other community colleges in the area that are also doing workplace basic skills.

We have recently completed a CD-ROM and Workbook with ten modules on how to become a Workplace Basic Skills instructor. We did this because we were taking ESL and ABE instructors from the colleges and putting them into the workplace to teach on a contract basis, and there were many issues they needed to understand in relation to what their role would be in the workplace and how it would be different from the traditional classroom setting.

Four of the CD modules are also available on the web, at <http://www.workplace-eti.com/wbt/wit/index.cfm>:

1. Roles of the Workplace Instructor
2. Workplace Needs Assessment
3. Developing a Course Outline
4. Teaching Reading in the Workplace

To access the modules, all you have to do is fill out a form (this helps us with our grant reporting). If instructor training is an issue for you, or if you are an instructor who wants to know more, please take a look!

The CD and workbook are available from us (\$50 U.S.). Please e-mail me directly for more information.

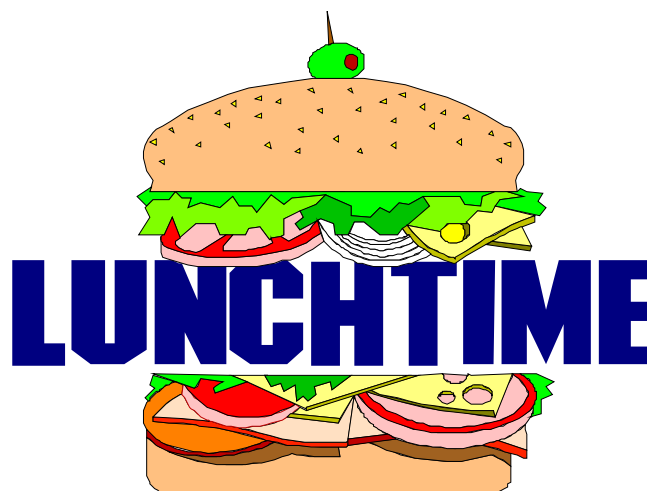
Marian Thacher, mthacher@sdccd.cc.ca.us
Workplace Learning Resource Center
San Diego Community College District
<http://www.workplace-eti.com>
619/624-2276.

Let's do lunch!

If you're interested and involved in adult literacy issues, please join like-minded professionals at the monthly "third Thursday" literacy lunch. It's informal (no set agenda), however this year we will include a "table topic."

This month's luncheon is September 21st at 1:00 p.m. We'll get re-acquainted and discuss: "What is your biggest challenge for the upcoming academic year?" The place: Photos & Flowers Garden Café, 3818 Meadows Lane (Las Vegas), located along Valley View, in the parking lot next to the Meadows Mall.

For information or to be added to the notification list, contact Sharyn Yanoshak, 702/253-6280, syank@ix.netcom.com



Reading Association conferences nearby

The Silver State Reading Conference, Sept. 22-23 at the Elko Convention Center, features Joanna Cole, Dave Pelzer, and many other acclaimed presenters. Joanna's *Magic School Bus* books, which have been made into a PBS television series, have delighted children and adults. Dave's *A Child Called "It"* was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize; *The Lost Boy* was on the *New York Times* bestseller list for more than 300 weeks.

Registration is \$75, with a discount for students. Contact Beverly Brothers 775/738-4711, bbrothers@rabbitbrush.com.

The Technology, Reading & Learning Difficulties (TRL D) Conference, cosponsored by the International Reading Association, will be held January 25-27, 2001 in San Francisco. The conference will focus on ways to use technology in education for reading, Title I, learning disabilities, staff development, and adult literacy, as well as on integrating technology across the curriculum. For information, visit www.trld.com, e-mail program@trld.com, fax 510/594-1838, or write Educational Computer Conferences, Inc., 19 Calvert Court, Piedmont, CA 94611.

De-stress tip #2

Be selective about your intake of
information

More information produced in the past 30 years than in the previous 5,000 ... more than 65,000 books published annually ... 40% of surveyed Fortune 1000 workers say they're interrupted more than six times an hour by intrusive communication.

Just as you wouldn't think of letting a stranger barge into your office without an appointment, don't force yourself to read information just because it arrives by mail, e-mail, or fax and you think you "ought to." Read or listen with a purpose. Control your environment and that of your department so you're not bombarded.

—Dianna Booher
Colleyville, TX
Training & Development



In times of massive change, it is the learner who will inherit the Earth, while the learned stay elegantly tied to a world that no longer exists.

—Eric Hoffer, *Philosopher*

This professional development project is a leadership activity funded by a grant from the Nevada State Department of Education, Workforce Investment Act, Title II (Adult Education and Family Literacy). There is no discrimination or denial of participation on the basis of gender, race, national origin, color, disability, age, or sexual orientation.

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